DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE

Branch of Environmental Management

P.O. Box 10

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Elizabeth:

I just went through the order and just wanted to identify to you a couple of thoughts:

- Paragraphs 17 through 46 involve some type of action on our part
- All paragraphs have been addressed less:
 - o Paragraphs 32 and 34: Talks about the conduct of water monitoring and analyses in the three drinking water wells, Wells #1, #2 & #3. We have sampled these wells sporadically. Well #3, the furthest well from the demolished Roads Shop location has not shown any contaminants above detectable levels. I believe the Tribe is not currently using that well. Current plans are to close Wells #1 & #2.

 Paragraph 39: Additional well installation is planned this year (FY07) to insure full characterization of the ground water plume.

- o Paragraphs 40 & 45: These paragraphs are significant in that a work plan and the associated implementation of corrective actions is required. We have an alternatives analysis plan completed and plan to conduct further tests of the aquifer this year to determine the suitability of the remedial options. A significant issue here is water quality standards for the remediation.
- O Paragraphs 41 & 42: This involves current practices to avoid releases. We have proposed the design of a new Roads Shop. The Tribe received funds to prepare a design, but apparently the Council did not approve moving forward with that. Current practices and storage by BIA in Owyhee may meet the requirements in these paragraphs.

The BIA should craft some type of a letter to EPA Region 9 which captures events and status to date.

John